

Teacher Resource Bank

GCE French

Unit 1 – Additional Sample Questions for Writing
(including possible content points)



1. Media

Loft Story! Star Academy! La ferme célébrités! Panique en cuisine!
La télé-réalité envahit le petit écran! Assez!

Pourquoi est-ce que la télé-réalité est si populaire?

2. Popular culture

Il y a 20 ans les top-models pesaient 8% de moins que la femme moyenne. Aujourd'hui elles pèsent 23% de moins !

Est-ce que la mode a une bonne ou une mauvaise influence sur les jeunes?

3. Health and lifestyle

Devrions-nous légaliser le cannabis ?

Oui	34%
Non	62%
Ne se prononcent pas	4%

Faut-il légaliser le cannabis? Quels sont les arguments pour et contre?

4. Relationships

Chaque année, le nombre de divorces en France est d'environ 110.000 à 120.000, dont 70.000 divorces impliquant des enfants mineurs (environ 120.000 enfants sont ainsi concernés chaque année par le divorce).

Quelles sont les conséquences du divorce pour les enfants?

Below is a list of **possible** content points for each answer, it should be stressed that the list is not prescriptive nor exhaustive, but is illustrative of the points which could be made.

1. Media

Pourquoi est-ce que la télé-réalité est si populaire?

- real people in real life situations
- audience participation (voting etc)
- not too demanding intellectually
- can be very entertaining
- good subject of conversation with friends
- cheap to make (advantage for TV channels)
- psychologically fascinating
- discovers new talent
- people can learn about themselves
- reflects modern society

2. Popular culture

Est-ce que la mode a une bonne ou une mauvaise influence sur les jeunes?

- allows young people to improve image and self-esteem
- feel they are part of a group
- gives young people a shared interest
- encourages young people to look smart and take care of appearance
- express one's personality
- encourages the young to spend money unnecessarily
- exploitation (eg football kits)
- problems of anorexic models
- feeling excluded if not seen as fashionable
- too much emphasis on external appearance

3. Health and lifestyle

Faut-il légaliser le cannabis? Quels sont les arguments pour et contre?

- drugs make money for criminal gangs
- alcohol/tobacco are drugs and are legal
- cannabis has medicinal properties
- many young people use it and flout the law anyway
- government could tax it and make money
- police time saved to tackle more serious crime
- cannabis can damage health (long term consequences)
- could lead to use of harder drugs
- people under influence of drug can be dangerous
- easy way of escapism which should be discouraged

4. Relationships

Quelles sont les conséquences du divorce pour les enfants?

- can be damaging psychologically
- children of one parent families more likely to have problems
- children feel guilty and responsible
- deprived of presence of one parent
- if divorce not amicable children can feel torn between parents
- better to live in a more harmonious environment
- can have a larger extended family
- may receive more presents/ holidays
- can make children more mature earlier
- can end up having more quality time with parents